Decline in priority sector accounts

†2196. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of accounts in the priority sector is decreasing continously;

(b) if not, the number of said accounts in the public sector banks at the end of March 1998 and March 2003 separately; and

(c) the total amount disbursed through these accounts during the above years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBAADSUL): (a) and (b) The number of accounts under the overall priority sector advances has decreased from 291 lakh as on March 1998 to 268 lakh (provisional) as on March 2003, after showing an undulating trend in the intervening period.

(c) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action against officials of UTI

†2197. SHRI RAM JETHMALAI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that JPC has urged Govenment to identify and punish the officials guilty in the US-64 scam;

(b) if so, whether Government have since identified the guilty officials;

(c) if so, the names of such officials along with the post they are holding; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.